

Griffith Says He Has No Intention of Letting Catcher Egan Go to Baltimore

GRIFFITH DENIES EGAN IS RELEASED

"Old Fox" insists that he has not yet let go his string on Young Catcher, and that Connie Mack has not sent him to Baltimore.

By "SENATOR."

NEW YORK, April 17.—The report from Philadelphia that Connie Mack has released Ben Egan to the Baltimore club is incorrect, said Manager Griffith this morning. "I have yet to waive claim to this player. He is not going to get away from me while I think I may need him to help out my club. They must have put it over on me while I was asleep. If they get Egan out of this league, that story is wrong."

Jack Dunn, manager of the Baltimore Orioles, has been trying to get Egan for his team. Last week he paid a visit to Washington for a talk with Griffith, trying to get his permission to let the player out of the American League. However, in the present condition of the Orioles' catching staff, Griffith declined to waive.

The strength or weakness of the Orioles behind the bat this season will be shown conclusively within a few days. Today John Henry, who has been on the hospital list since last season, is expected to get a thorough trial in a regular game, catching his old side partner, Bob Groom. If Henry goes through today's test successfully, Manager Griffith will then think about letting Egan leave this league.

Before leaving the Capital Manager Griffith presented his ten days' notice of release to Jack Egan, the semi-pro backstop, and to Bob Austin, the Wesleyan College southpaw twirler, both of whom were given trials with the Orioles this spring. Griffith has been trying to land berths for both these young players but has failed.

All New York from the nethermost ends of Brooklyn to the furthest of far-away Bronx, is prepared today to give Frank Leroy Chance, the semi-pro leader, a welcome to live long in the memory of all fortunate enough to be within the auspicious confines of the Polo Grounds. Long a detected villain in the minds of the New Yorkers, Chance has become a hero merely by shifting his allegiance from Chicago to New York. He is a Western Hemisphere little old New Yorker.

Gotham yearns for a winner. Hal Chase, given the chance of a good team by George Stallings, tried and failed. Some say that Hal was too good-hearted to use the iron hand. Anyway, he failed, and immediately became anathema.

Last year chubby Harry Wolverton was wailed upon by the New York club. He had forgotten major league tactics through long service in the bushes. He experimented and experimented, but got nowhere. He failed. If his continual experimenting would not have brought his downfall, his extreme hard luck would anyway. There were times when the Yankees positively resembled a class C team. So Harry failed, and moved on to California.

Johnson Steps In.
Ban Johnson, villain of the American League, realizing that to make baseball really reach its height of prosperity, he must put a winning club into New York. Fortunately for him his arch-enemy, "Chatterbox" Charlie Murphy, boss of the Cubs and general disturber of baseball, picked up the New York club. Murphy knew that Chance's contract was about to end. He knew, too, that the contract was called to let him to his hands off the team. So Murphy, in order not to tie himself up to any such contract in the future, picked a quarrel with the man who had won pennants and world's titles for the West Side team in Chicago. And that was where Ban Johnson stepped in.

Chance did not hesitate to reply to Murphy in the latter's own terms. When Murphy told him to get out, he said: "Both men kept the wires blazing with their messages. Finally Chance decided to quit the game, and his orange groves in California. He had made his work. He had made a winner out of a team generally doled to finish third or worse. But his retirement was not to be long. Ban Johnson got busy."

"I must have a winning team in New York," thought Ban Johnson. "The team looks good now on paper. It lacks a driver. I'll get Chance." And he did.

Frank Farrell, the quiet owner of the Yankees, stood ready to pour his money

into order to bring a winner to this city. He knows that he will get it all before he gets a winner for a single season. New York likes a winner and Farrell is a New Yorker.

Chance Signs Up.

All you fans remember the excitement in baseball circles last winter when Chance was hesitating about signing his contract to manage the Yankees. The afternoon papers in this little old town actually got out extras about the various movements of Johnson, Chance and Farrell in Chicago. At last, however, the Cubs agreed, and New York tossed up its hat and yelled. At last it was to have a winner.

The writer was here in February the night Chance was introduced to his brother managers of the American League. It was positively amusing to look at Frank Farrell. He acted as if he had found a prize. He actually believed he had made it possible for the American League to have a pennant winner here merely by obtaining Chance to whip his undisciplined stars into shape and make them play Chance baseball.

Today New York hopes to assure Chance in no unimpeachable terms of the warmth of his support. For six weeks the fans of the metropolis read of the practice sprints of the Yankees in Bermuda. They could hardly restrain themselves until the Broadway boys should return. Finally they left the stoner in the North river and played over in Brooklyn. Despite the bad weather the new stadium of Charlie Ebbetts was packed to the fence.

That game in Brooklyn, though, was a mere exhibition. It did not have the tang of the real thing. Today it's the real thing at the Polo Grounds. The toughest opponent possible, the Washington Climbers, have been chosen to open the season here. There will be plenty of tang to this battle today. And the fans know it.

Celebration Planned.

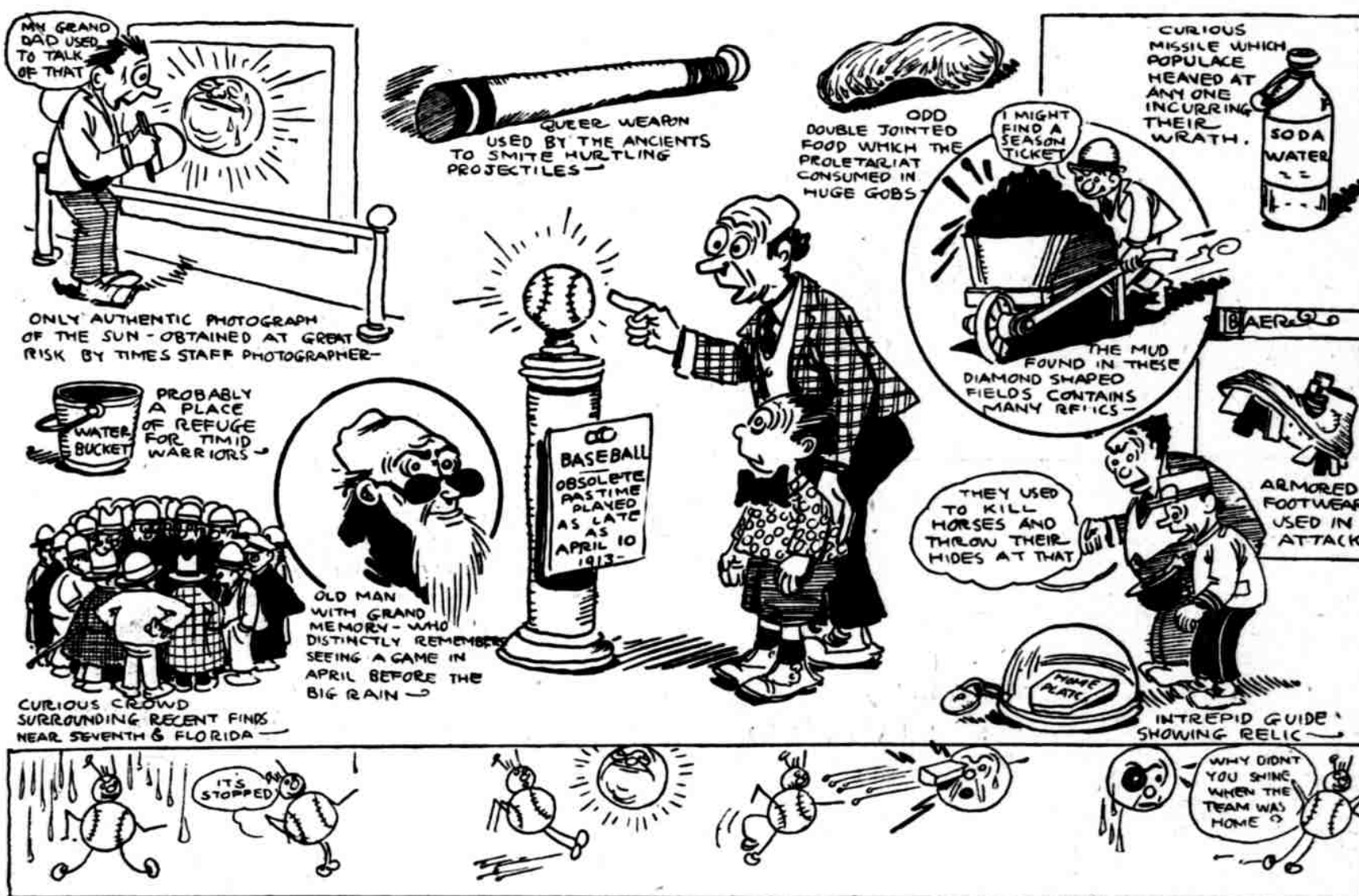
A big celebration has been planned by the fans. Of course, the usual band concert will keep the fans happy for the hour before the curtain goes up. Along about the time the umpires show up to order the athletes to get down to business and abolish the fandangoes, the Tammany Club, baseball team, made up of boys under fifteen years of age, will march upon the field, bearing upon their shoulders an immense floral baseball, a gift to Manager Chance from the well-wishing fans.

Joe Humphries, whose seniority in the game is second to none, will march to the plate and tell the fans that this floral ball, a token of the best wishes of New York, is for Manager Chance.

There isn't much need for the Washington fans to be told that the Yankees have a good team. Of Washington was at the Florida avenue ball yard last Thursday when Walter Johnson, the greatest pitcher in the game, was fighting the Yankees at bay. They know that Chance has worked the deal, impossible as it may seem, to land a real pitcher. And that was where Ban Johnson stepped in.

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Archaeologists Unearth Evidence of Prehistoric Game



BINGLES AND BUNTS

By Grantland Rice

Frank Leroy Chance.

(Upon the occasion of his Welcome Home to New York.)

P. L.—old pal—here's "Welcome home!"
Escaped from under Western Ties:
Across the drift of April's gloom
For you who write the laureled lyrics:
No epic fit of cheering bunts:
Nor olive wreath at your brow—
We'd rather let it go at this—
Here's how."

Our only regret is that Charles Webb Murphy is not in New York to understand a bit more fully what a good many thousands think of the man that put Murphy on the map. But on second thought he will likely draw an inkling of how several folks feel toward Chance when the P. L. leads his Yanks into the South Side corral in Chicago. This date should be a grand little opening for Mr. Murphy to use in blowing himself to an extended Eastern tour.

By Way of Suggestion.

As the situation stands now the best scheme at hand would be to call off the schedule for a while and send the clubs back for another stretch of spring training. Only think of how many tons of hogheads of the grand old "pink" have been washed out since the middle of last week. A good many of the earnest athletes have about forgotten how to put on their gloves or whether right field is back of first base or behind the catcher.

Last season we drew a rough winter and a raw March. April and the league opening was worse.

This season we drew a mild winter and a balmy March. And April has been worse than ever. Judging from these advance conditions, magicians,

knowing what they are likely to get through this section of April, might as well either postpone the opening affair or switch their training camp into the middle of the Atlantic for proper conditioning.

Griff, on Wednesday, had to call the roll of his troop to see if anyone was missing. The Old Fox has almost forgotten that he was managing a club in the time that had elapsed since his first battle.

K. H.—Walter Johnson was born in Humboldt, Kan., is twenty-four years old, is 6 feet 1½ inches in height and weighs 190 pounds. He should be good for about ten more years—or maybe a dozen.

We should know a good bit more about Connie's outlook when the crafty Mr. Mack begins to unfurl Messrs. Wickoff, Bush, Penneck, etc., before his league firing. If his youngsters look as good under a further test as they looked against the Phillies there will be quite an upheaval necessary before the Athletics are blocked away from the top of October's heap. There's no question about the rest of the club if he can show a cluster of larvae properly equipped to help out Coombs, Bender, and Plank.

The Red Sox this season may whale the padding out of the Yanks at several spots along the trail, but they have about given up the hope of wrenching off nineteen out of twenty-one games as they did last year. It took Frank Chance two starts against the Champe to nick his first victory from them, where Harry Wolverton traveled into his fifteenth battle vs. Stahl before cracking the deadlock of defeat. Something of a difference, as such things go.

Gunboat Smith is still in the offing, but there appears to be a small dent in his armor plate. Also the essence of a wrap to one of his fourteen-inch guns.

Courage, readers, we are likely to hear from Mr. Lipton again any moment. We know how the strain is telling on you, but the cable wires even now may be slinging with another manifesto in the way of additional news.

HUGHIE HIGH IS GREAT PERSEVERER

Missed His Supper So He Could Play Ball and Worked During Lunch Hour So That He Might Get to Diamond Earlier.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., April 17.—This is a story of a young man who literally would rather play baseball than eat. You often have heard people use the expression that they preferred something else to taking their meals, but when it comes to a showdown, they probably were not slow in lining up for the march toward the dining room. There is one Tiger, however, who repeatedly has missed his supper in order that he might have more time to devote to the national pastime.

Hughie High is the name of this athlete who found more pleasure in playing baseball on an empty stomach than in doing any thing else after a feast. Not only did he endure the pangs of hunger in order to engage in the sport, but assimilated many a parental kicking for cutting meals besides.

He's a Perseverer.

Mr. High is what might be termed a persevering person. When he makes up his mind to do anything he just naturally goes and does it. Until this particular object is accomplished, he is deaf, dumb and blind, except where hearing, speaking, or seeing will help him to attain that which he desires. It so happens that he was bitten by the baseball germ early in life, and from that time on his world has revolved around the game.

The little fellow was not fortunate enough to be able to devote his entire attention to baseball, however. His parents decided that he had to be useful and ornamental at the same time, so he went to work learning the plumbing trade. Just why he selected this occupation, where there are so many openings for good burglars and porch climbers is not apparent. Possibly he figured that he could get just as much money and more regular sleep by holding people up in the daytime by means of the pipe-wrench and the mallet lead.

St. Louis is High's home and also the place where his plumbing encounters. The pounders and faucet fixers of the Mound city work eight hours a day, as do most plumbers elsewhere. This gives them one hour for actual labor and seven for going back to the shop after their tools. Naturally, with eight hours of sleep and the time for breakfast, Mr. High did not have very much time left for ball playing, but he found that by passing up his supper he could get in about an hour's work on the lots in the baseball months.

Quit Earl To Play.
Also he managed to quit half an hour earlier in the evening by taking only thirty minutes for dinner at noon instead of sixty. Then, of course, Sundays and holidays, he did not have to work, unless there was some special job, which meant overtime pay and more money to be spent for balls, bats, and gloves.

The young plumber played hard in the short time allowed him to enjoy the game, and his proficiency attracted the attention of some of the Trolley leaguers. Finally he attained the proud position of a member of one of the Trolley League clubs, and thereafter he lived just for the Sunday battles in that flourishing semi-professional circuit.

By this time his people had given up the idea of weaning him away from baseball, and instead of bestowing a kicking on him whenever he missed supper, they began to read the papers Monday morning to find out what Hughie had done the Sabbath battles. They still predicted that he would come to no good end, but were glad, since he insisted on being a ball player, that he was a good fellow.

After a couple of seasons in the Trolley League, he was signed by the Hartford club, of the Connecticut League, where he played in 1911 and 1912, coming to the Tigers from that outfit last fall.

He still works at the plumbing business in the fall and winter months and holds a union journeyman's card. They say he can mallet lead with all the best of them.

Joe Turner, the middleweight boy, of Washington, who will go on at the Gayety Theater tomorrow night against Jim Poulos, the Greek, is down to the middleweight limit, as he agreed to be in the articles he signed with Poulos. It is one of the stipulations of the articles of agreement that both athletes should weigh in at midsize within the middleweight limit, and Turner found little difficulty reducing himself to the required weight. During today and tomorrow, Turner will rest for his meeting tomorrow with Poulos. He will take just enough exercise to keep himself in proper condition for the fray and enough for him to keep from going over 150 pounds.

Among the Greek fraternity in this city there is much discussion as to Poulos' ability to defeat Turner. The tribesmen of the visiting athletes have all kinds of confidence in him, and some money is likely to be won or lost on the outcome of the match. Neither wrestler has much boasting to do before he goes on the mat. Their reputations are well known for being hard workers, and all that can be assured the fans is that each will do his best to win.

Will Bowl in the Terminal Tourney
Following are the duckpin bowlers who will meet in the down-and-out tournament at the R. R. Y. M. C. A. alleys tonight:

Truman, Marks, Towles, Triplett, Warren, Walton, Handy, Williams, Weekly, Truman, 35; Handy, 32; and Warren, 31, were the high men in last night's rolling.

BALTIMORE & OHIO RAILROAD
\$1.50
Round trip from Washington to Havre de Grace

RACES
Weekdays
APRIL 18 TO MAY 1
Tickets will be sold for train No. 33 leaving Washington 11:00 a. m., which will stop at Race Course to discharge passengers. Returning: Special train will leave Race Course immediately after races, connecting at Baltimore with Train No. 327 leaving Mt. Royal Sta. 4:21 p. m., Camden Sta., 4:30 p. m., arriving Washington 7:25 p. m.

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Don't Gaze at the Red Light of a Lost Opportunity
Beaconize Your Feet—It Pays
Style, Comfort, Durability
\$3.00, \$3.50, \$4.00
MAIL ORDERS DELIVERED FREE

Moon's Beacon Boot Shop
1111 Penn. Ave., Opposite Postoffice

Veau Gregg Is Best In Pitching Duel

CLEVELAND, Ohio, April 17.—Veau Gregg is better than George Mullin today in the opinion of those who saw the battle yesterday in which the Cleveland southpaw came off best by a 2 to 1 score. Gregg failed to allow a hit until the fifth inning.

Manager Birmingham scored both of the runs for his team, the first on a successful squeeze play. Bush gave a great exhibition at short for the Tigers. The score by innings:

R. H. E.
Tigers 0 0 0 0 1 0 X—2 5 1
Batteries—Gregg and Land; Mullin and Stanage.

The Cincinnati club lost quite a bunch of money by being compelled to cancel exhibition games on account of the flooded condition of the ball yard.

The St. Joseph team hung one on "Big Ed" Walsh in an exhibition game the other day when they drove the "Big Moose" to the woods in six innings.

The Athletics' pitching staff looks to be some staff for the youngsters, Weyerhoff, Burroughs and Bush, helping out Bender, Coombs, Plank and Brown.

Pitcher George Foster, who is showing his winning ways with the champion Red Sox, was once with the team of the Houston, Tex., team.

Wilbur Schardt, the former Brooklyn twirler, is back in the American Association, being a member of the Indianapolis team. Two years ago he was a star with the Milwaukee team.

A number of baseball critics claim that the outlook of both the Giants and the Athletics are woefully weak. The season is early yet. A little later we will see what we will see.

Bert Anna, who has been in the Central League for the past ten years, is first as owner of the South Bend team and later as owner of the Grand Rapids franchise, has retired from the game.

Connie Mack doesn't think that Washington will cut much of a caper in the American League pennant race. Either the Red Sox or the Athletics will attend to the winning stuff this season, according to Connie.

Pitchers "Lefty" James and "Lefty" George are team mates on the Toledo club, of the American Association. These two southpaws will be a great help to the Mud Hens in their ride through the A. A. circuit.

With a bunch of big league veterans, including Dave Altizer, Jim Delehanty, Jim Wither, Perry, George, Brown, Claude Rossman, Roy Patterson and Rube Waddell, the Minneapolis Miller team, like an "Old Home Week" ball team.

Announce Line-Up.

Manager Robinson, of the Yankee A. C., today announced the following line-up which will meet the Rough Riders at Sixteenth street and Columbia road, in a double-header, next Sunday, 2:30 p. m. Right field, W. Witte, third base, S. Gottlieb, shortstop, W. Cafritz, second base, J. Levitt, first base, A. Kirt, catcher, W. Haidin, catcher, C. Currie, left field, Earl Owens, center field, W. Bowman, pitcher; L. Goldberg, pitcher.

WEATHER PERMITS ALL GAMES TODAY

Scene of Every Big League Contest Is One of Sunshine and Fair Weather.

Practically all of the big league teams and those of the minors which were slated to open their season today will get a chance to play, according to the weather department sent this morning.

The delayed opening of the International League will take place together with the scheduled openings of the South Atlantic and the Virginia State leagues. From all over the country weather reports show that for the first time since the season opened all of the teams will be able to enjoy something akin to real baseball weather.

The rain during the past week has kept both American and National leagues idle, has postponed the opening of the International circuit, and has lost thousands of dollars for the club managers.

Since April 10 the opening of the two major leagues hardly a game has been played under a cloudless sky, those in the West being played between showers or under dark, cloudy weather conditions. East and West today enjoy sunshine of the 100 per cent kind doled out by the weather man.

Georgetown Will Play Harvard Team Today
Georgetown will play Harvard University on the Hilltop this afternoon in their annual engagement. The Harvard team comes down later than the other colleges this spring and is expected to be in better trim. Several games were called off during the last week on account of the weather.

Coach Frank Sexton has the Crimson well in hand and is expecting to give Georgetown the best game of the season. Fenlie will pitch for Georgetown while Harvard will probably use Sam Felton, the crack football player, in the box.

Ring Experts Say McCarty Is Better

PHILADELPHIA, April 17.—Luther McCarty carried the scalp of Freeman Jim Flynn when he left here today. At the Olympic A. A. last night he cut the Pueblo man to ribbons in a six-round bout. That McCarty did not score a knockout was due to the fact that Flynn covered up, not caring to swap punches with his opponent.

Ring experts who saw the conqueror of Al Pulzer expressed the opinion that he has improved wonderfully since his first fights in the East.

Cardinals Blanked.

CINCINNATI, April 17.—Pitcher George Johnson and Fielder Bob Bescher were the heroes of Cincinnati's 5 to 0 defeat of the St. Louis Cardinals. Johnson allowed but three safeties on his delivery while Bescher, rushing in a double-header, won Sunday's 2-0 victory, right field, W. Witte, third base, S. Gottlieb, shortstop, W. Cafritz, second base, J. Levitt, first base, A. Kirt, catcher, W. Haidin, catcher, C. Currie, left field, Earl Owens, center field, W. Bowman, pitcher; L. Goldberg, pitcher.

Line-up and summary: R. H. E. Cincinnati 0 2 2 0 0 0—5 3 0
St. Louis 0 0 0 0 0 0—0 3 4
Batteries—Johnson and Clarke, Perret, Hunt and Wingo.

Eddie Cicotte Proves Baumgardner's Master

ST. LOUIS, Mo., April 17.—George Baumgardner has fallen in the estimation of the St. Louis fans today, having succumbed to the White Sox and Eddie Cicotte's pitching. The knuckle ball finger proved too much for Baumgardner, allowing but four hits and winning by 3 to 2.

The Browns made a strong bid in the ninth, but Cicotte proved to be too strong, and went the route to the entire satisfaction of Manager Jimmy Callahan. The score by innings:

R. H. E.
White Sox 0 0 1 0 0 0 3—3 9 2
Browns 0 0 1 0 0 0 1—2 4 1
Batteries—White Sox, Cicotte and Schalk; Browns, Baumgardner and Agnew.

Joe Turner Scores Victory Over Willard
SAN ANTONIO, Tex., April 17.—Joe Turner, of Washington, amazed the population of this city by defeating Judd Willard, the German wrestler, in two straight falls. The bout was staged at the Darling Theater before several thousand fans, who declared that Turner is a sensation on the mat.

The first fall came after one hour and seven minutes of hard work, by means of the flying crotch hold. Turner got the second fall in thirty seconds.

Turner is today en route for Charlotte, where he wrestles tonight. He then goes to Washington for a bout Friday night.

Havre de Grace RACES
Six Races Daily.
From April 18 to May 1, inclusive.

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Fare: Round Trip, \$1.50

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